

Submitter: Hope Stanton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

Oregon is a state that relies heavily on its natural resources. The Oregonflora website is a valuable resource to identify and track those resources. The changes in weather are continuing to cause changes in those resources and the Oregonflora website is an invaluable tool to help track those changes.

Oregon has 4,886 unique plant species that grow without cultivation. Of these, 70% are native species, and 120 are endemic and grow only in Oregon. Changes to these plants and plant communities are a reflection of the conditions affecting our range and croplands, our forests and our tourist sites

The oregonflora.org website offers sophisticated search and plant identification tools, 1.48 million mappable plant occurrence records, 63,000+ color field photos, and fact sheets for every plant taxon.

Oregon's economy depends upon its botanical resources. Healthy forests, productive rangelands, agricultural operations, outdoor recreation sites, and native plant horticultural businesses all need reliable data which OregonFlora provides.

The requested support will leverage 30 years of research, volunteer effort, and citizen science contributions to develop the OregonFlora resources. Sustainable support will help ensure it is maintained.